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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/808,879	03/24/2004	Ching-Wei Chang	J-SLA.1501	6629

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ROBERT VARITZ
4915 SE 33RD PLACE
PORTLAND, OR 97202

EXAMINER

BAKER, CHARLOTTE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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09/26/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/808,879

Applicant(s)

CHANG, CHING-WEI

Examiner

Charlotte M. Baker

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 June 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/24/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims^{PAW 1-4} are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Klassen et al. (5,621,546) in view of Zhao et al. (US 2003/0146925 A1) and further in view of Sanger (US 2005/0041038 A1).

Regarding claim 1: Klassen et al. disclose performing output-device-dependent color error diffusion on color-image input data utilizing a halftone (Abstract and col. 5, ln. 22-30 and col. 6, ln. 49 through col. 7, ln. 18); and with respect to the selection for pixel outputting of a pixel (col. 7, ln. 49 through col. 9, ln. 4); in accordance with (a) selected output color for the pixel (col. 7, ln. 49 through col. 9, ln. 4), and (b) assessment of the pixel in terms of its association with a predetermined neighborhood pattern of adjacent pixels (col. 6, ln. 49-55).

Klassen et al. fail to specifically address output-device-dependent color palette containing output-device-dependent output color values; utilizing one of the output colors in the palette.

Zhao et al. disclose output-device-dependent color palette containing output-device-dependent output color values (Fig. 3); utilizing one of the output colors in the palette (Fig. 3 and par. 39 through par. 43).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include a color palette in order to provide faster mapping of colors in an input color image to the selected palette colors as taught by Zhao et al. (par. 16).

Klassen et al. in view of Zhao et al. fail to specifically address and in relation to infeeding of that pixel to the output device for outputting, applying a predetermined, dot-gain correction curve which corrects the infeed intensity value of the pixel.

Sanger discloses and in relation to infeeding of that pixel to the output device for outputting, applying a predetermined, dot-gain correction curve (dot-gain curve 112) which corrects the infeed intensity value of the pixel (Figs. 3-5 and pars. 71-77).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include a dot-gain correction curve in order to better achieve a desired target.

Regarding claim 2: Klassen et al. in view of Zhao et al. and further in view of Sanger satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Klassen et al. further disclose wherein said performing is conducted (Abstract and col. 5, ln. 22-30 and col. 6, ln. 49 through col. 7, ln. 18); (a) measured device output color values with (b) subjectively chosen color output values (col. 5, ln. 58 through col. 6, ln. 48).

Klassen et al. fail to specifically address in relation to a palette; whose color values are based upon compromise values that are determined, color-for-color, by a method involving averaging of.

Zhao et al. disclose in relation to a palette (Fig. 3 and par. 39 through par. 43); whose color values are based upon compromise values that are determined, color-for-color, by a method involving averaging of (Figs. 3 and 10 and pars. 28 and 71).

Regarding claim 3: Klassen et al. in view of Zhao et al. and further in view of Sanger satisfy all the elements of claim 2. Klassen et al. further disclose wherein said performing, with regard to pixel output color selection, is more specifically conducted utilizing selected arithmetic (plus/minus) sign weighting in relation to the positive and negative color chrominance values associated with each pixel which is to be output (col. 6, ln. 56 through col. 9, ln. 16).

Regarding claim 4: Klassen et al. in view of Zhao et al. and further in view of Sanger satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Klassen et al. further disclose wherein said performing, with regard to pixel output color selection (Fig. 4), is more specifically conducted utilizing selected arithmetic (plus/minus) sign weighting in relation to the positive and negative color chrominance values associated with each pixel which is to be output (Fig. 4 and col. 6, ln. 56 through col. 8, ln. 19).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 5 and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Parker et al. (5,726,772); Sobol (5,185,673).

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charlotte M. Baker whose telephone number is 571-272-7459. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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CMB

KA Williams

KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER